

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6597**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1194

**NOTE PREPARED:** Dec 26, 2007

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Hunting on Rivers in an Area of High Population Density.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Fry

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FUNDS AFFECTED:** X GENERAL  
X DEDICATED  
FEDERAL

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill prohibits hunting for waterfowl on or along a river or stream in an area with a high population density. It requires the county executive to prepare and make available to the public a map that indicates areas where waterfowl may not be hunted because of a high population density. The map must be revised at specified times.

**Effective Date:** Upon passage.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:**

**Explanation of State Revenues:** *Penalty Provision.* IC 14-22-38-5 provides that a person who takes or possesses a wild animal, except a deer or turkey, in violation must reimburse the state as follows:

- (1) \$20 for the first violation.
- (2) \$35 for each subsequent violation.

Money collected for violations must be deposited in the conservation officers' Fish and Wildlife Fund.

IC 14-22-38-1 provides that a person who violates the proposed provision commits a Class C misdemeanor. If additional court cases occur and fines are collected, revenue to both the Common School Fund (from fines) and the state General Fund (from court fees) would increase. The maximum fine for a Class C misdemeanor is \$500. However, any additional revenue would likely be small.

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:** The bill will increase administrative expenses to the county for preparing a map to indicate areas where waterfowl may not be hunted. Expenses would vary by county.

Counties that could qualify include Marion, Lake, Allen, and St. Joseph. Marion County has an ordinance that provides that individuals cannot discharge a firearm within city boundaries, which is most of Marion County. Other cities may also have similar ordinances. (Local units can regulate firearms, but they cannot regulate hunting.) The county executive must ensure that the map be made available to the public not later than August 1, 2008. The revised map must be made available after the 2010 federal decennial census, not later than July 1, 2013.

*Penalty Provision:* A Class C misdemeanor is punishable by up to 60 days in jail.

**Explanation of Local Revenues:** *Penalty Provision:* If additional court actions occur and a guilty verdict is entered, local governments would receive revenue from court fees. However, any change in revenue would likely be small.

**State Agencies Affected:** DNR.

**Local Agencies Affected:** Marion, Lake, Allen, and St. Joseph Counties; trial courts, local law enforcement agencies.

**Information Sources:** Bureau of the Census.

**Fiscal Analyst:** Bernadette Bartlett, 317-232-9586.